

JUNE

SPLASH! INTO SUMMER

Hello friends, fellow boaters and aquatic enthusiasts! Allow me to introduce myself. My name is **Splash the Water Safety Dog**, and I am here to remind you always to be safe around the water.

Even though we Chesapeake Bay Retrievers are excellent swimmers, I feel so much safer wearing my life jacket. It floats — I don't! Accidents can happen very quickly, and if you don't know the proper way to handle the situation, you could get seriously hurt.

Wearing your life jacket can mean the difference between life and death. Did you know 84 percent of boating accident drowning victims were not wearing a life jacket? That's a scary statistic — well over half! Fatalities can be avoided, so let's play it safe.

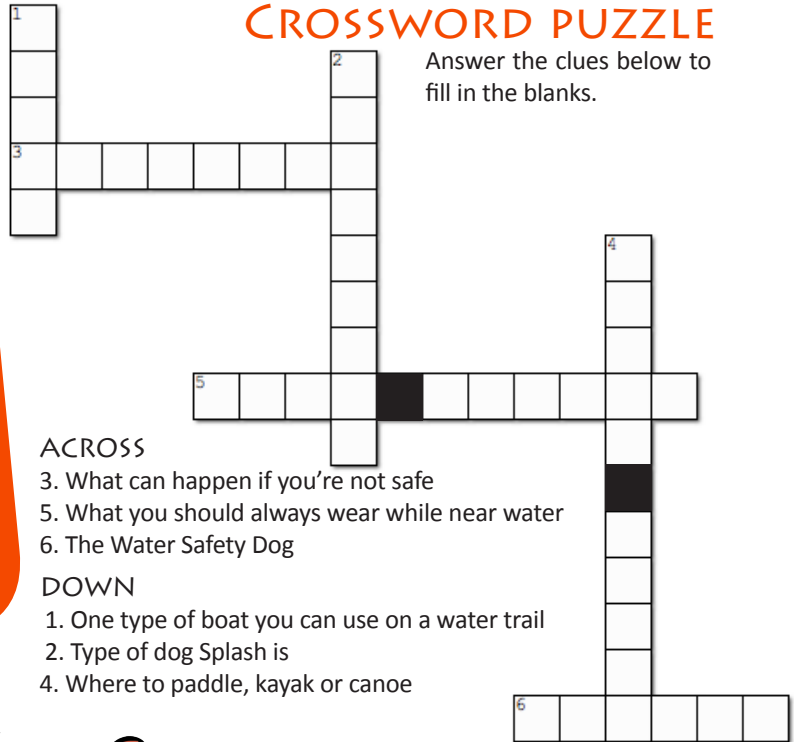
All you have to do is pick a jacket you like and **WEAR IT** any time you're near the water. They come in many different colors and styles that are designed for various **water-related activities**. Find which option works best for you!



Spreading the word in Annapolis with my pal Bill the Goat!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer the clues below to fill in the blanks.



ACROSS

3. What can happen if you're not safe
5. What you should always wear while near water
6. The Water Safety Dog

DOWN

1. One type of boat you can use on a water trail
2. Type of dog Splash is
4. Where to paddle, kayak or canoe

Answer Key: ACROSS: 3. accident; 5. life jacket; 6. Splash
DOWN: 1. kayak; 2. retriever; 4. water trail

GO FOR A PADDLE!

From open waters to quiet creeks to raging whitewater, our state has a wide **VARIETY OF WATERWAYS**. To date, Maryland has more than 600 miles of designated water trails. These trails provide well-mapped, easy-to-get-to day trips in a variety of settings and for all levels of paddling experience.

Grab an adult and a kayak, canoe or paddleboard, and enjoy a trail in your neck of the woods or take a trip and explore somewhere new. While paddling, you'll see historical sites, wildlife and wetlands first-hand. No matter which trail you choose, wear a life jacket!

